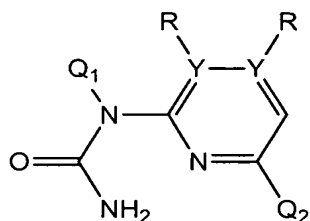


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 24, 26, 38, 63, 65 and 67 as follows:

¹² ~~24~~. (Three Times Amended) The compound according to claim ¹ ~~38~~, wherein said compound is a compound of formula Ih:

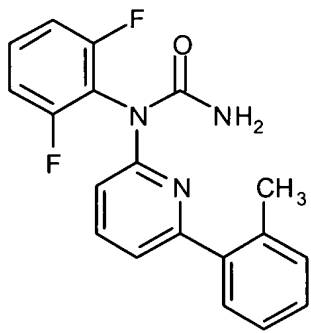
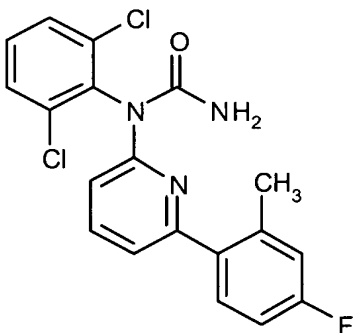
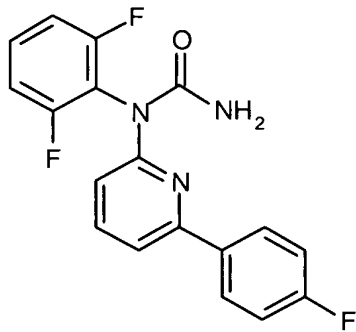
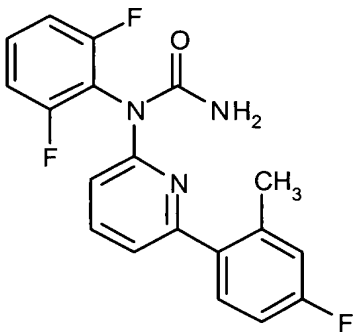
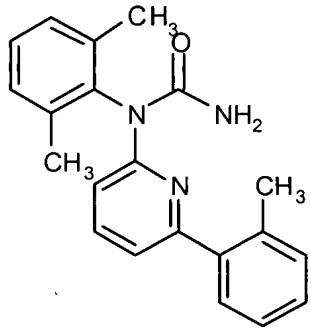
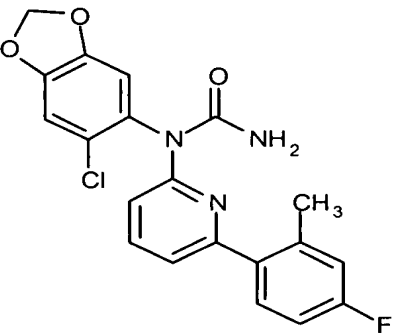


and is selected from any one of the following compounds:

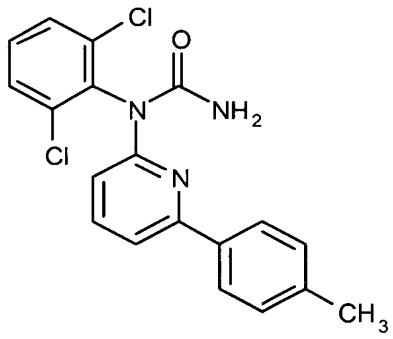
T, 1311

cpd #	Structure	Cpd #	Structure
401		407	
402		408	

E'

cpd #	Structure	Cpd #	Structure
403		409	
404		410	
405		411	

ε'

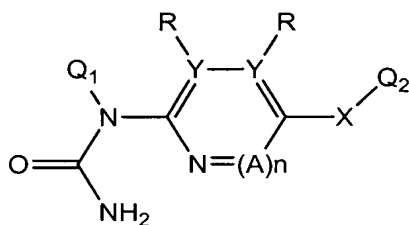
cpd #	Structure	Cpd #	Structure
406			

ε²

26. (Twice Amended) A method of treating inflammatory diseases, autoimmune diseases, destructive bone disorders, infectious diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, reperfusion/ischemia in stroke, myocardial ischemia, renal ischemia, heart attacks, angiogenic disorders, organ hypoxia, vascular hyperplasia, cardiac hypertrophy, thrombin-induced platelet aggregation or conditions associated with prostaglandin endoperoxide synthase-2 in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient a composition according to claim 25.

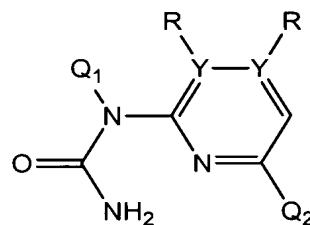
ε³

38. (Three Times Amended) A compound of the formula:



(If)

or



(Ih)

wherein:

each of Q₁ and Q₂ is independently selected from 5-6 membered aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring systems, or 8-10 membered bicyclic ring systems consisting of aromatic carbocyclic rings, aromatic heterocyclic rings or a combination of an aromatic carbocyclic ring and an aromatic heterocyclic ring;

8³
Q₁ is substituted with 1 to 4 substituents, independently selected from halo; C₁-C₃ alkyl optionally substituted with NR'₂, OR', CO₂R' or CONR'₂; O-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl optionally substituted with NR'₂, OR', CO₂R' or CONR'₂; NR'₂; OCF₃; CF₃; NO₂; CO₂R'; CONHR'; SR'; S(O₂)N(R')₂; SCF₃; CN; N(R')C(O)R⁴; N(R')C(O)OR⁴; N(R')C(O)C(O)R⁴; N(R')S(O₂)R⁴; N(R')R⁴; N(R⁴)₂; OR⁴; OC(O)R⁴; OP(O)₃H₂; or N=CH-N(R')₂;

Q₂ is optionally substituted with up to 4 substituents, independently selected from halo; CH=N-OH; CH=O; C₁-C₃ straight or branched alkyl optionally substituted with NR'₂, OR', CO₂R', S(O₂)N(R')₂, N=CH-N(R')₂, R³, NH-CH₃, NHCH₂CH₂OH, NHCH₂CH(OH)CH₂OH, CH₂OCH₂OCH₃, NHCH₂CH₂NH₂, NH-phenyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolidinyl or CONR'₂; O-(C₁-C₃)-alkyl optionally substituted with NR'₂, OR', CO₂R', S(O₂)N(R')₂, N=CH-N(R')₂, R³, or CONR'₂; NR'₂; OCF₃; CF₃; NO₂; CO₂R'; CONHR'; R³; OR³; NHR³; SR³; C(O)R³; C(O)N(R')R³; C(O)OR³; SR'; S(O₂)N(R')₂; SCF₃; N=CH-N(R')₂; or CN;

R' is selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₃)-alkyl; (C₂-C₃)-alkenyl or alkynyl; phenyl or phenyl substituted with 1 to 3 substituents independently selected from halo, methoxy, cyano, nitro, amino, hydroxy, methyl or ethyl;

R³ is selected from a 5-6 membered aromatic carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system;

R⁴ is (C₁-C₄)-alkyl optionally substituted with N(R')₂, OR', CO₂R', CON(R')₂, or SO₂N(R²)₂; or a 5-6 membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system optionally substituted with N(R')₂, OR', CO₂R', CON(R')₂, or SO₂N(R²)₂;

X is selected from -S-, -O-, -S(O₂)-, -S(O)-, -S(O₂)-N(R²)-, -N(R²)-S(O₂)-, -N(R²)-C(O)O-, -O-C(O)-N(R²)-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, -O-C(O)-, -C(O)-N(R²)-, -N(R²)-C(O)-, -N(R²)-, -C(R²)₂-, -C(OR²)₂-, or -CH(OH)-;

each R is independently selected from hydrogen, -R², -N(R²)₂, -OR², SR², -C(O)-N(R²)₂, -S(O₂)-N(R²)₂, or -C(O)-OR², wherein two adjacent R are optionally bound to one another and, together with each carbon to which they are respectively bound, form a 4-8 membered carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring;

R² is selected from hydrogen, (C₁-C₃)-alkyl, or (C₁-C₃)-alkenyl; wherein each (C₁-C₃)-alkyl or (C₁-C₃)-alkenyl is optionally substituted with -N(R')₂, -OR', SR', -C(O)-N(R')₂, -S(O₂)-N(R')₂, -C(O)-OR', or R³;

E3

Y is C;

A is CR'; and

n is 1; wherein an aromatic heterocyclic ring system consists of 1-2 heteroatoms independently selected from N, O or S.

E4
Sub F4

63. (Amended) A method of treating inflammatory diseases, autoimmune diseases, destructive bone disorders, infectious diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, reperfusion/ischemia in stroke, myocardial ischemia, renal ischemia, heart attacks, angiogenic disorders, organ hypoxia, vascular hyperplasia, cardiac hypertrophy, thrombin-induced platelet aggregation or conditions associated with prostaglandin endoperoxide synthase-2 in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient a composition according to claim 62.

E5
Sub F5

65. (Amended) A method of treating inflammatory diseases, autoimmune diseases, destructive bone disorders, infectious diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, reperfusion/ischemia in stroke, myocardial ischemia, renal ischemia, heart attacks, angiogenic disorders, organ hypoxia, vascular hyperplasia, cardiac hypertrophy, thrombin-induced platelet aggregation or conditions associated with prostaglandin endoperoxide synthase-2 in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient a composition according to claim 64.

E6
Sub F6

67. (Amended) A method of treating inflammatory diseases, autoimmune diseases, destructive bone disorders, infectious diseases, neurodegenerative diseases, reperfusion/ischemia in stroke, myocardial ischemia, renal ischemia, heart attacks, angiogenic disorders, organ hypoxia, vascular hyperplasia, cardiac hypertrophy, thrombin-induced platelet aggregation or conditions associated with prostaglandin endoperoxide synthase-2 in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient a composition according to claim 66.